



Congratulations ITE 2021 Award Recipient

TRANSPORTATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD – PLANNING

THE HILLSBOROUGH METROPOLITAN ORGANIZATION



The Hillsborough Metropolitan Organization has received a Transportation Achievement Award for its project “**Speed Management Action Plan for Hillsborough’s High Injury Network**” in the Planning Category. The Transportation Achievement Awards recognize excellence in the advancement of transportation to meet human needs, by entities concerned with transportation, such as governmental agencies, legislative bodies, consulting firms, industry, and other organizations.

The Hillsborough MPO (Tampa, FL) is being recognized for the leadership and effort the Hillsborough MPO has taken toward eliminating fatal and serious injury crashes in Hillsborough County. MPO’s recently completed Speed Management Action Plan has already shown rippling effects through the various partner agencies in awareness, education, investment, and prioritization of safety projects.

“With one of the highest fatality rates in the nation, the MPO for the greater Tampa area led a Speed Management Action Plan with the support of FDOT, the City of Tampa, and Hillsborough County. The plan focuses on strategies for the many high-speed multi-lane unlimited-access arterials that crisscross the urbanized area with severe crashes. Leading the analysis, the MPO was the lucky beneficiary of the passionate volunteerism of Paula Flores, a local resident and national leader in the Vision Zero movement, “ said Hillsborough Transportation Planning Organization Executive Planner Gena Torres and Executive Director Beth Alden, AICP in a joint statement.

With traffic fatalities being one of the leading causes of death in the nation, especially for teens and young adults, combined with societal changes in lifestyle preferences and intensification of density in urban centers, making our streets safe and multimodal will contribute to a reduction in fatalities and serious injuries, a healthier population, improved access to schools, jobs, services, and recreation, as well as economic benefits.

“The speed management action plan is versatile, and the concepts and recommendations can be applied and customized to any community based on their needs. Setting the course for development of a plan is simply the beginning,” said Paula C. Flores, Transportation Planning Practice Leader, Greenman-Pedersen, Inc., who nominated the project.